

CLAIMS

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1. A storage drive for receiving a removable storage media cartridge thereinto and retaining the received cartridge, the cartridge including a shell and a storage media disposed within the shell, the drive comprising:

10 a motor for engaging the media within the retained cartridge and applying a motive force to the engaged media;

an ejection mechanism for ejecting the retained cartridge upon actuation; and

15 a stopper for contacting the cartridge at least during ejection thereof and for co-acting with the ejecting cartridge to stop the ejecting cartridge at a predetermined ejection travel distance.

2. The drive of claim 1 comprising a disk drive for receiving a removable storage disk cartridge including a shell and a storage disk disposed within the shell, wherein the motor is a disk motor for engaging the disk within the retained disk cartridge and applying a rotating force to the engaged disk.

3. The drive of claim 1 wherein the stopper is a bias spring mounted to the drive.

25 4. The drive of claim 1 wherein the drive further comprises a wall generally parallel to the retained cartridge and adjacent a side of the retained cartridge opposite the motor, and wherein the stopper is mounted to an inner side of the wall and extends toward and into a path that the cartridge travels during ejection.

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5 5. The drive of claim 4 wherein the stopper pressures the retained cartridge against the motor.

10 6. The drive of claim 1 wherein a distal end of the stopper contacts a surface of the cartridge as the cartridge travels along an ejection path, and wherein such contact by the stopper halts the traveling cartridge at the predetermined ejection travel distance.

15 7. The drive of claim 1 wherein the stopper is for positively co-acting with a stop feature on a surface of the ejecting cartridge to stop the cartridge at the predetermined ejection travel distance, the stop feature being contacted by a distal end of the stopper as the cartridge is being ejected, whereby such contact halts further travel of the ejecting cartridge, and whereby the stopper and stop feature in combination define the predetermined ejection travel distance.

20 8. The drive of claim 7 wherein the stopper is for positively co-acting with a recess on the surface of the ejecting cartridge to stop the cartridge at the predetermined ejection travel distance.

25 9. The drive of claim 8 wherein the stopper has a contacting surface with a generally convex curvature at a distal end thereof for positively co-acting with a generally concave recess on the surface of the ejecting cartridge to stop the cartridge at the predetermined ejection travel distance.

10. The drive of claim 1 in combination with the cartridge.

11. A cartridge for being received into a storage drive and retained therein, the cartridge comprising:
 a shell;

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a storage media disposed within the shell for being engaged by a motor of the drive and for receiving a motive force from the engaging motor; and

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5 being contacted by a stopper of the drive upon ejection of the retained cartridge from the drive, the stop feature co-acting with the stopper to stop the ejecting cartridge at a predetermined ejection travel distance.

12. The cartridge of claim 11 wherein the stop feature is a recess on the surface of the cartridge.

13. The cartridge of claim 12 wherein the stop feature is a generally concave recess on the surface of the cartridge.

15 14. The cartridge of claim 11 comprising a disk cartridge for being received into a disk drive and retained therein, the disk cartridge comprising a storage disk disposed within the shell for being engaged by a disk motor of the drive and for being rotated by the engaging disk motor.

20 15. The cartridge of claim 11 wherein the stopper is mounted to an inner side of a wall of the drive and adjacent a side of the retained cartridge opposite the motor and extends toward and into a path that the cartridge travels during ejection, and wherein the stop feature is positioned on the side of the retained cartridge opposite the motor to be contacted by the stopper as the cartridge travels the ejection path.

25 16. The cartridge of claim 11 in combination with the drive.